

N.O.W. News

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Numismatists of Wisconsin is incorporated in the state of Wisconsin as a non-stock nonprofit tax exempt corporation. Contributions are tax deductible. The objective of Numismatists of Wisconsin is to encourage and promote interest in numismatics, to cultivate friendly relations between Wisconsin collectors of numismatic items and Wisconsin coin clubs, and to encourage, educate, and assist new numismatic hobbyists. All resources of the organization shall be used to further these objectives. Dues are \$10 per year and entitles participants to N.O.W. News, this quarterly publication

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ON THE COVER:

A family trip to the Harley Davidson Museum in Milwaukee provided our cover subject for this issue. More specifically, the museum Gift Shop lured me in with numismatic related items. The ‘Challenge Coin’ on the cover is a large 45mm copper piece enhanced with color enamel. The placard insert briefly describes the history of Challenge Coins:

“Challenge Coins surfaced during the World War I era. The practice of carrying a coin designed specifically for a unit was popular with the Army Special Forces. Carrying the coin at all times and presenting it when ‘challenged’ to prove affiliation with that unit resulted in a number of consequences for those who could not produce a coin; the most popular required the coinless soldier to buy a round of drinks. That practice continues to be popular today.”

The Harley Museum is a destination I highly recommend to anyone. The history of this persevering American company is artfully laid out with hands-on exhibits, film archives, photographs, newsreels, etc... and the antique bikes are beautiful!

CAUTION: EXPERIMENTAL ISSUE

From the Editor

Greetings fellow NOW members! Spring is in the air! It is a time of change, a time of renewal, a time when color replaces the gray of winter. Color! That's the operative word, and as you can plainly see in this EXPERIMENTAL ISSUE of NOW NEWS, we have added color to some of our pages!

How did this happen? Why is it experimental? Those are good questions that I will now answer. How this happened, is that we have been gifted a generous offer from an anonymous member who wanted to see NOW NEWS in color. The additional cost to add color to each copy of NOW NEWS is approximately 80 cents, or approx. \$200 for our entire circulation for the Spring issue. Our benefactor suggested we add color to this issue and challenge the membership to weigh in on the experiment.

Why it is experimental, is that our budget will not allow us to include color as standard practice, so it provokes questions for the membership to contemplate: Does having color in our magazine matter to you? Would you be willing to pay an extra 80 cents per issue, or perhaps an extra \$5 on your yearly dues? Should we ask our advertisers to pay a little more if we add color to their ads? Is there anyone among our ranks who is willing to supplement the extra amount?

If you have any thoughts on this subject, please let us know. Without input from the membership, nothing will be done. You may contact me (or any board member) and we will discuss the matter at the next board meeting. Make no mistake, there is nothing wrong with our NOW NEWS as it is – nationally recognized by the ANA as an Outstanding Club Publication – however, some of our articles could be enhanced with color images, and this anonymous donation gives us an excellent opportunity to discuss the possibility.

Now on to the chocked-full contents of your Spring issue! We have SIX, that's right SIX original feature articles again this spring! Dreux Watermolen kicks it off with 'Another Electrifying Medal', then directly from the Civil War Token Society, we are privileged to reprint the Wisconsin chapter of their article 'ScripMates', by David Gladfelter and Sterling Rachootin. Fred Borgmann tells us about the Kaukauna Mayor around the turn of the century, then Jerry Binsfeld continues his 'Interview Series', this time he talks to longtime dealer Jerry Jaeger. Tom Casper enlightens us about a pioneer aviator in 'Flight from Wisconsin', and finally we have a rare article from a Young Numismatist, Emmy Reichenberger tells us about one of her favorite animals in 'Foxes'. The regular departments are here as well, NOW News and Notes, Club News, BOOKS!, Show Calendar (Lots of Spring Shows), and Much More!

ENJOY SPRING!

-Jeff Reichenberger



NOW News and Notes

NOW Board of Governors

Your Board of Governors met in Madison at the Madison Coin Club and NOW show at the Sheraton Hotel on March 5th. It was too late to include the meeting information in this issue, so please watch for it in your Summer issue of NOW NEWS.

NOW Presence at Central States

This year NOW will have a Club Booth at the Central States Numismatic Society 78th Anniversary Convention in Schaumburg, IL. April 26-29. Please spread the word and stop by to say hello – a few of your Board members will be manning the booth and will welcome the company.

DUES

If you haven't already, please remember to send in your dues for 2017. If you have not paid by the printing of the Summer issue of NOW NEWS, you will be dropped from the membership rolls and you will miss the next issues. Don't let your membership lapse! Send your dues today!

SHOW REPORT

Oshkosh - February, 19. Just one show to report and wow, what a doozy! Folks were happy to get out and do some coining on this gorgeous February day. From the opening bell, the floor was very busy. Dealers reported hefty sales and customers were pleased to add to their collections. It was a great start to the coin show season and we can hope it continues throughout the year. Next year, Sunday, February 18, 2018 – Oshkosh Convention Center - Don't miss it!!!



Busy bourse in Oshkosh, February 19

2016 Writer's Contest Award Results

A total of seventy-eight ballots were received, of which sixty-eight were found to be valid and were counted and tabulated by Governor Ken Muelling and submitted to the board during the meeting March 5 in Madison. The results are as follows:

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Our 2016 Writer's Award Winners are:

1 ST Place.....Tom Casper
2 ND Place.....Herbert Miles
3 RD Place.....Bruce Benoit

Congratulations to all of our authors!! Once again, take notice that EVERY article on the ballot received a number of votes, a testament to our interesting and diverse club! Thank you to all of our members who participated in the vote!!

SPECIAL THANKS to our generous Award Sponsors, the **South Shore Coin Club** sponsors the \$100 First Place award, **Wisconsin Coin Expos LLC** sponsors the \$50 Second Place award, and **Milwaukee Numismatic Society** sponsors the \$25 Third Place award.

CLUB NEWS

(Lots of Spring Coin Show preparation! These clubs work hard to present these coin shows. Please make plans to attend as many as you can! –Editor)

South Shore Coin Club

The SSCC is pulling together all of the components to present its annual two-day show. The SSCC 53rd annual show will be held Friday and Saturday, April 7-8 at the Crowne Plaza Milwaukee Airport. **See the ad in this issue** and see more info on the Show Calendar.

Fox Valley Coin Club

At the latest club meeting most of the focus was on preparation for their annual spring coin show. This year to be held on April 9th at the usual location – The Darboy Club in Appleton. **See their ad in this issue** and also go to the Show Calendar for more info.

Wisconsin Valley Coin Club

The WVCC have their hands full with their annual coin quiz, starting a numismatic fantasy program, and setting up their spring show at The Plaza Hotel in Wausau, on April 23. **See their ad in this issue** and look for details on the Show Calendar.

Madison Coin Club

The Madison Coin Club has been working hard on their 84th annual show, which was held March 5. This was the annual NOW show, hosted by the MCC, they also arranged the traditional NOW ‘Mystery Dinner’ (Too late for this issue - See the full report in the Summer issue of NOW NEWS) The club is planning a bus trip to Central States at the end of April.

Sheboygan Coin Club

The Sheboygan CC is busy getting ready for their annual spring show at The Village at 170, on May 7. See details on the Show Calendar.

The Sheboygan Coin Club held their annual Holiday Party on November 15th. The Club honored Ed Rautmann for serving on the Coin Club Show Committee for 30 years. Ed began putting the show together in 1986, has been a faithful member of the Club and dedicated to making every show run smoothly.

In a new effort to grow interest in the Club our President purchased a modern coin counting/sorting machine and demonstrated how it can be used to sort spare change collections into type for quicker valuable coin identification (copper Lincoln Cents and nickels are highest value coins in spare change) as well as preserving the coins condition. The new machine is available for members to use to get started collecting coins at a low cost from their own spare change collections. The Club has also created a Facebook page. You can find us by searching for Sheboygan Coin Club.

Another Electrifying Medal

By Dreux J. Watermolen #1755



In an earlier issue of N.O.W. News (2014, Vol. 52, No. 3), I described exonomia associated with Reddy Kilowatt, “spokesvolt” for the electric power industry, and commented on how this advertising character served as the model for similar promotional ventures. Since publication of that article, I have become aware of a medal featuring the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association’s “spokesplug” that may also interest collectors.

Reddy Kilowatt’s creator licensed his iconic character to private power companies, but refused to let consumer-owned cooperatives use it. He didn’t want Reddy associated with “socialistic” organizations and warned that any rival characters would infringe on Reddy’s exclusive patents and trademarks. The National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA), however, believed that a character symbolizing the practical application of electricity would differ enough from Reddy who “merely represented an abstract idea of electrical energy.”

In October 1950, Andrew McLay, a free-lance artist working for NRECA, created such a character with a light-socket head, wire body, and electrical plug for his bottom and legs. Playing off one of the original nicknames for rural electric cooperatives (“wiredhand”), this waving character, named Willie the Wired Hand, represented the dependable, “never-tiring, always available hired hand” that helped farmers get their work done. NRECA’s membership chose Willie as their mascot at their national meeting in February 1951, later shortening his name to Willie Wiredhand.

Willie’s creation and adoption jolted Reddy and the investor-owned utilities. Co-op officials claimed, “Any similarity between trim, efficient Willie and the shocking figure of Reddy Kilowatt” to be “purely coincidental.” Reddy Kilowatt, Inc. didn’t buy that argument, however, and in July 1953 filed a lawsuit alleging trademark infringement and unfair competition. They sought an injunction barring the use of Willie and repayment of alleged damages. The trial judge sided with Willie and the co-ops. Reddy’s crew took the case to the U.S. Court of Appeals, where a three-judge panel heard the case and unanimously reaffirmed the lower court’s decision. The case ended there in early 1957, with the investor-owned utilities having to pay the legal fees. Although Willie was intended to symbolize the cooperatives’



Andrew McLay's cartoon following NERCA's court victories.

friendliness, he now also reflected the rural co-op movement's willingness to "fight the good fight," even in the face of seemingly impossible odds. McLay illustrated the court victory with a cartoon featuring Willie hanging up a pair of boxing gloves after having given Reddy a shiner. "He's small, but he's wirey" became part of Willie's trademark which was granted to the NRECA later in 1957.

Like Reddy Kilowatt, Willie Wiredhand has appeared in publications and on signs, notebooks, pencils, rulers, embroidered patches, coffee mugs, bobble heads, and other promotional items. Several electric cooperatives still use Willie featuring him on their Facebook pages and at community events. Touchstone Energy Cooperatives, the current brand identification for consumer electric co-ops, has even introduced complimentary lightbulb characters, CFL Charlie and LED Lucy, to help Willie teach children about energy efficiency and renewable energy.

The Willie Wiredhand Medal

The obverse of the 34-mm aluminum medal includes the caption WILLIE WIREDHAND / VALUE COIN encircling the waving Willie character. The reverse features a rural landscape with a wired utility pole casting its light in the foreground. 25 YEARS and 1960 appear in the open areas. The caption around the perimeter reads SILVER JUBILEE / AMERICA'S RURAL ELECTRIC SYSTEMS.



References

CFL Charlie and LED Lucy Facebook page.

United States Court of Appeals Fourth Circuit. 240 F2d 282 Reddy Kilowatt, Inc. v. Mid-Carolina Electric Cooperative, Inc.[and National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, Inc.]. No. 7290 (1957).

Watermolen, D.J. 2014. Some electrifying tokens. Numismatists of Wisconsin N.O.W. News 52(3):9-13.

"Willie Wiredhand History" on Reddy Kilowatt.Org website:

<http://www.reddykilowatt.org/2007/03/22/willie-wiredhand-history/> (2007).

"Willie's World" on Electric Consumer.Org website: <http://www.electricconsumer.org/willies-world/> (2017).

SCRIP MATES

by David Gladfelter and Sterling Rachootin, and dedicated to the memory of Stephen Tanenbaum.

(This wonderful article comes to NOW NEWS courtesy of the Civil War Token Society and David Gladfelter. Published as an 8-part series in the Civil War Token Journal, we are privileged to reproduce the Wisconsin segment here. Where possible I have added images of the companion Civil War Tokens. –Editor)

INTRODUCTION

What we are calling “scrip mates” are paper scrip issued by merchants who also issued metallic Civil War tokens. They and the tokens are exonomic mates; they go together in our collections. The term was “coined” by Sterling who published a series of articles about them over the years in our Journal, beginning in 1981. In his words:

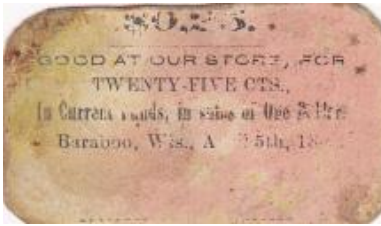
(After buying the Fuld civil war token guide books) I was on my way to collecting Civil War tokens. From there I stumbled onto paper U. S. currency and it wasn't long before I noticed private issued scrip at Ralph Goldstone's setup at a coin show in Boston. One piece pictured a dime in color, and interestingly it had the signature of E. W. Hall, who issued the NY 985A-1a, 1b and 1c CWT. What a find! So I wrote the first article to appear in our Journal entitled “Scrip Mates” – private scrip signed by the issuer who also issued Civil War tokens.

So Sterling was the pioneer, and later, David and Steve also picked up this sideline to CWT collecting. Among the three of us, we assembled a fairly extensive number of “scrip mates” in our respective collections. We talked about writing up the group as a whole, but Steve's sudden and tragic death occurred before the project got under way. Steve's collection was auctioned by Stack's-Bowers Galleries in Baltimore in November, 2012.

Sterling reviewed a draft of this article in 2011 and supplied a number of items for illustration. His recent death, sadly, has left it to David to put the article in final form. With illustrations, it is long and will run in installments.

With George Fuld's permission, we are using the same Fuld numbers for the “scrip mates” as are used for the CWT. The variety numbers will begin with 11 so as to provide a good separation between the metal tokens and the paper scrip (in cases where the metal varieties exceed 10, as in the Yankee Robinson example below, a higher starting number for the scrip will be used). The fabric letter p, of course, stands for paper, as well as for cardboard which was used for some chits. Most “scrip mates” are scarce to rare; we make no rarity estimates, but where others have published them, we give those. A list of references cited in each installment will appear at the end of the installment.

WISCONSIN



Fuld # WI45A21p, Merchant: Peck & Orvis, Denomination: .25, Date: April 5, 18??, Reference: Not in Krause

Comments: H. A. Peck and Rufus A. Orvis operated their drug and grocery business in Baraboo from 1857 to 1863 per Hartzog. The handwritten "& Orvis" remnant of their name can barely be made out on the signature line at the bottom on the front of this well-worn pink chit. On the back, the handwritten name H. A. Peck and "No.59" are somewhat more distinct. The month and day of the printed date are readable, but only the digits 18— of the year are legible. At present this chit is unique so a collector who wants it to match his/her token cannot be fussy about condition. Hopefully more examples will come to light in the future. No imprint; only the one denomination presently known.



Fuld #WI120B-11p, Merchant: Frank Huggins, Denomination: .03, Date: January 29, 1863, Reference: Not in Krause

Comments: Here is another Wisconsin scrip mate in cardboard chit form. Like the previous, it also carries a date (not only the year 1863, as on the CWT, but also the day and month) of issue. Which came first, the token or the chit? Whichever it was, we can say positively that the dated chit proves that cardboard scrip was not supplanted by metal tokens, but continued to circulate side by side with them as emergency money (other chits with 1864 dates are known). Four examples of this scarce chit are known to your writer. The merchant's handwritten initials F H appear on the back, probably to make the chits redeemable. They have no imprint but are in the style of the Chicago printer S. S. Millar, who during the war advertised and made similar round cardboard chits, some with imprints, for other Midwestern merchants.



Fuld #WI300D-11p and WI300E-11p, Merchant: E. Connell & Co. and M. Harsh, Denomination: .25, Date: December 1, 1862, Reference: Krause WI-297 SC5



Comments: This scrip mate has something in common with the CWT WI480A-1a in that it advertises two different CWT merchants on the same piece, E. Connell & Co. and M. Harsh. They are among 47 members of the Janesville Merchants' Association who are named on the back of this note, issued in the name of the association and signed by its member-secretary, E. L. Dimock, of Jackman & Dimock. It is drawn on the association's account at the Rock County Bank, of which F. W. Crosby was an officer and a likely relative of the bank's cashier, James B. Crosby. An unknown person's initials J.H.V. (?) appear in the serial number space. Per Krause, 1 to 5 examples are known, this being the Krause plate specimen. A .15 denomination also exists. No imprint.



Fuld# WI300D-3a



Fuld# WI300E-1a



Fuld# WI310B-11p, Merchant: John Jung, Denomination: .50, Date: None, Reference: Not in Krause

Comments: This colorful note, lithographed in brown over a blue tint, is printed on a card stock and may be a proof. At any rate it is unsigned, but the merchant's name is outlined in white on the undertint. With imprint of H. Seifert Lith. (Henry Seifert is listed as a lithographer at 217 E. Water St. in the 1858 Milwaukee city directory compiled by Smith, Du Moulin & Co.). Other denominations are known.





Fuld# WI320A-11p, WI320A-12p, WI320A-13p, WI320A-14p, Merchant: S.H. Coleman, Denominations: .05, .10, .25, .10, Date: July 29, 1862, (14p – 1862), Reference: Krause WI 307 SC1, SC2, SC5, (14p – Not in Krause)

Comments: The 11p, 12p and 13p series of notes was only known in remainder form until these issued notes appeared in the sale of the Herb and Martha Schingoethe collection, and Krause's listings do not identify the merchant. All are lithographed in black over a pale green tint with the imprint of Merritt & Brown, N.Y. per Krause, 5 to 10 examples are known of each denomination, but as issued notes they are rare. Each denomination is of similar design but has different vignettes. The 14p note is a new find, discovered by Steve Tanenbaum who owned two examples. Although both are remainders, they are identifiable because the merchant's name and business description are prominently displayed. This variety has a different imprint, Mil. News Pr. Only the one denomination is presently known.



Fuld# WI320A



Fuld# WI360B-11p, Merchant: Geo. E. Stanley, Denomination: 1.00, Date: 1868, Reference: Not in Krause

Comments: Esperson's Brick Block, shown on this blue-lithographed advertising piece, was a commercial building in LaCrosse where various merchants had store space. George E. Stanley ran an advertisement in an 1866 business directory describing himself as a "dealer in watches, clocks & jewelry, silver plated ware, gold pens, fancy goods, perfumery, &c.", also "pianos, melodeons, &c." and as "general agent for the celebrated Grover & Baker's Sewing Machines" – seemingly, everything that the cultured, well-to-do small-town Wisconsin matron might need. Stanley's ad did not give a business address, but a close inspection of the vignette of the Esperson's building on his 1868 note appears to show his name above the awning in front of the building. The note lists the various products in which Stanley dealt, but "farms"? On its face, the note appears to be a coupon, worth \$1 off the price of an item in his "gift sale" – but why the prominent six-digit serial number? In a recent auction featuring a pair of Stanley's notes, the cataloger speculated that it might have been one of 125,000 lottery tickets – quite a big event for an 1860s era small Wisconsin town. So here it is, call it what you like. Signed on the stone, with imprint of Western Engraving Co. Chicago.



Fuld# WI360B



Fuld#WI410D-11p and WI410J, Merchant: S. Klauber & Co. & Ramsey & Campbell, Denomination: .05, .10(12p), .25(13p), Date: Nov. 10, 1862, Reference: Krause WI 370 SC1,2,3



Comments: Like the Janesville note shown above, this series of scrip notes was put out by a merchant's association, of which 20 members "and others" are named as guarantors on the back. The notes are drawn on the association's account at the Bank of Madison and signed by its secretary, W. T. Leitch. Named members include two CWT merchants, S. Klauber & Co. and Ramsey & Campbell. The notes are without imprint. Per Krause, 6 to 10 examples are known of each of the two lowest denominations, and 1 to 5 of the .25, and also a .50 (WI-370 SC5).



Fuld #WI410J



Fuld#WI510E-11p, Merchant: Valentin Blatz, Denomination: .25, Date: None, Reference: Krause WI 530 SC5

Comments: This note is a remainder, identifiable by the merchant's name (here the given name is spelled without a final letter e) being outlined in white on the pink undertint. (In the 1858 Milwaukee city directory the spelling of Blatz's given name is anglicized to Valentine.) Per Hartzog, Blatz (1826-1894), a Bavarian as were many early Milwaukee families, learned the brewer's trade there, then came to the United States in 1848, settling in Milwaukee the following year and opening his own brewery in 1851. Production grew steadily, from 500 barrels the first year, to 8,000 in 1861, and 34,000 in 1871. Today, beer bearing the Blatz label is still brewed in Milwaukee, but by the Miller Brewing Co. under contract with the Pabst Brewing Co., owner of the label. Blatz's scrip mate has the imprint of H. Seifert Lith. Per Krause, 1 to 5 examples are known; this one is on regular paper and is not a proof.



Valentin Blatz





Fuld# WI930C-11p,12p,13p,14p, Merchant: H.W.Sherman Agt, Denomination: .05,.10,.25,.10(14p), Date: Dec 11, 1862(.05), Dec. 12, 1862(.10), Dec 16, 1862(.25), None(.10 14p), Reference: Krause WI836 SC1,2,5,2a

Comments: Henry W. Sherman was the agent for the People's Accommodation Store, a retail dry goods and grocery business, as these notes show. Per Raikes, Sherman came to the Wisconsin Territory from New Haven, CT in the 1840s, settling in Waukesha where he found work as a clerk. The Waukesha Freeman of May 13, 1862, carried the following notice: "The store recently occupied by C. Cork [another CWT merchant] has been rejuvenated, and is now being filled with a fine stock of Dry Goods, Boots and Shoes, Crockery, &c. It is termed 'The People's Accommodation Store' and is under the management of that prince of good fellows, H. W. Sherman." Sherman was the inside man in a partnership with one C. Jackson who owned a neighboring drug and book store. In 1864 that partnership dissolved and the business was taken over by R. L. Gove. Today the building houses a tattoo parlor, a sign of changing times. The old store's notes come in two sizes (small with identical designs and vignettes for 11p, 12p and 13p, large with varying vignettes for 14p and others) and are form-printed in black with the merchant's name and location custom-overprinted in red. The small size notes have the imprint Doty & McFarlan, New York; that on the large size includes the street address, 123 Wm. St., a neighborhood in lower Manhattan where other engravers and die sinkers had shops during the Civil War era. Krause lists additional notes of this merchant in small-size denominations of .50 and 1.00, and in large-size of .05, .25, .50 and 3.00. All varieties are tough; only 1 to 5 specimens are known of each. *(NOW NOTE: original research cited here from NOW member Randy Raikes – see NOW NEWS archives – 'The People's Accommodation Store' - numismatistsofwisconsin.com)*

As explained in the Introduction, this project was not intended to be a complete coverage of the “scrip mate” genre. Without doubt, it barely scratches the surface, as a first attempt at a listing often does. Thus we are confident that new issuers and varieties will turn up sooner or later, and that the body of known scrip put out by CWT merchants will expand. As it does, these new finds should, and will, be written up and published. We invite all collectors to contribute their discoveries to the pool of Scrip Mate information. -David Gladfelter (with and for Sterling Rachootin).

(Wisconsin collectors! Have you any Scrip Mates to report? Contact David through the Civil War Token Society or contact me and I will forward the information. –Editor)

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Archives International Auctions, Sale 23 (Fort Lee, N. J., March 10, 2015), lot 945 (George Stanley “lottery tickets”).

Rich Hartzog, *Wisconsin Civil War Tokens: The Robert C. Kraft Collection* (Rockford, IL: World Exonumia Press, 1991), pages 101, 102-103.

Kenneth Keller, *Sutler Paper Money* (Rockford, IL: World Exonumia Press, 1994), pages 84-85. Chester L. Krause, *Wisconsin Obsolete Bank Notes and Scrip* Iola, WI: Krause Publications 1994

Francis A. Lord, *Civil War Sutlers and Their Wares* (New York: Thomas Yoseloff, 1969).

Randy Raikes, “The People’s Accommodation Store,” *Numismatists of Wisconsin* web site, on line at <http://numismatistsofwisconsin.com> (accessed October 29, 2016).

Fred Reed, “Merchants Circulated Pasteboard Small Change,” *Coins Magazine*, March 9, 2010. Available on line at www.numismaster.com

Smith, Du Moulin & Co., *Milwaukee City Directory, Being a Complete General & Business Directory of the Entire City, Embracing the Name, Occupation and Address of Every Resident within the City Boundaries ... and Much Other Useful Information.* (Milwaukee: Jermain & Brightman, 1858.)

Wisconsin and Minnesota State Gazetteer, Shipper’s Guide and Business Directory for 1865 –1866, page 128 (advertisement of George E. Stanley). The State Historical Society of Wisconsin has a copy of this resource. It is useful for looking up information on businesses active in these states during these years. Doug Watson has compiled a list from this directory of Wisconsin and Minnesota merchants who issued CWT.

Also note “The Numismatic Legacy of ‘Yankee Robinson’” in Q. David Bowers, *More Adventures with Rare Coins: Fifty Favorite Numismatic Stories* (Collectors Universe, 2002), pages 197-252. A fine piece of research on the life of the issuer of the first Scrip Mate in this series.

TOKEN PHOTO CREDITS

WI300D-3a, WI320A, WI360B (Steve Hayden – civilwartokens.com)

WI300E-1a (stockmarketreview.com)

WI410J ([tokenwarlock – eBay store](http://tokenwarlock.ebay.com))

Kaukauna Mayor's Badge

by Fred J Borgmann #1175

Here is a 10k gold presentation badge given to the newly elected mayor of Kaukauna, Wisconsin in 1898. Since the fineness is not marked on the badge I had to determine it by doing specific gravity test which came out to be 11.61 which is in the 10 karat yellow gold range. This star badge is 34.6 x 40.4mm in size and originally had ball tips on the points. When some of the balls came off the original owner may have removed the remaining ball tips for appearance sake. What makes this badge so unusual is the enameled lettering on the front, "CHIEF POLICE // MAYOR // FIRE DEPT" which tells us that the mayor was not just a mayor, which was only a part time job in Kaukauna back then, but as mayor he was also the chief of police and the fire chief ! Granted both were very small departments by modern standards. The reverse is engraved "C.E.Raught, Kaukauna, Wis. May 1st, 1898 From Friends" The mayor was Charles E. Raught and before his election he was already the owner, publisher and editor of the local newspaper, an alderman and the assistant fire chief. In 1898 he was also appointed the local post master and later became a director and cashier of the local first national bank plus the building and loan association! How he found time for memberships in the Knights of Pythias, Masons, Elks and Eagles is beyond me.



MEET JERRY JEAGER, Northern Wisconsin Coin Dealer

Interview by Jerry Binsfeld #0091L



Jerry is a veteran coin dealer who sets up at many of the Wisconsin and Illinois Coin Club Shows.

He also sells on Ebay and has operated several coin shops in the past. Jerry offers medals, tokens, world coins, U.S. Coins, notes, stamps and a variety of collectibles in every field that interests most coin collectors. His address: U.P. Coin & Card, 6715 W. Kaubashine Rd., Hazelhurst, Wisconsin 54531, Ebay name: hodagent and store name – The Hodag's Treasures

How did you get started in coins and stamps?

“Thanks to my grandparents I got started in both stamps and coins. I was about five years old and my grandmother was receiving letters from a Capuchin priest in Nicaragua. Knowing the kindness in my grandmother she most likely was donating money for the poor of

Nicaragua via the priest. Anyway I was intrigued by the stamps and of course my grandmother gave them to me and that was the start of my stamp collecting which later blossomed into buying and selling. As for coins I was helping my grandfather clean under a coke machine and when I pulled everything from under it there was a 1942 dime mixed with the paper and debris and my grandfather let me keep it and this got me started in numismatics. I was also about five years old at the time.”

When did you become a coin dealer?

“My official start as a professional numismatist was in 1975 when I rented a table at the annual Lake County Coin Club Show. At the time I was in the Navy stationed at the Great Lakes Naval Station. The show went well and you might say I was “hooked” from that time on.”

Tell us about your navy days and your coin activities during that time?

“I was in the Navy from 1973-82. I spent two tours at the Naval Regional Medical Center, Great Lakes. During part of that time I worked a few hours a week at Waukegan Coin on Lewis Avenue. I also bought and sold coins and stamps as time would allow.

I also did a tour with VA-75 in Oceania, Virginia which resulted in two Mediterranean Cruises aboard the U.S.S. Saratoga. When we visited Spain and Italy I would buy and sell European coinage to dealers in those countries. I also would buy U.S. Coins there and bring them back to the States to resell.”

Was it a lucrative business?

“At times it was very lucrative.”

What was your rate and rank?

My rate and rank was Hospital Corpsman 2nd class. Obviously I was in the Medical Department with a specialty of Aviation Medicine. We did flight physicals, refractions, ekgs, X-rays, etc.”

Would you recommend the military to a young person?

“I definitely would recommend the military to any young person. It builds character as well as giving a person time to consider what they want to do with the rest of their life.”

How is your Ebay business?

“We have over 6000 items listed. Just like any endeavor it is a lot of work to do it successfully. There is no easy money. We sell not only coins and tokens but stamps, advertising collectibles, postcards as well as other miscellaneous items. Just like everywhere these days Ebay sales are just a fraction of what they were in earlier years but money still can be made there.”

As to questions related to medals and tokens what seems to be “hot” at this time?

“For one, Wisconsin Encased. As you know Jim Skwarek, a Milwaukee collector and dealer is expanding on your 1992 catalog. He is just about ready to go to press. He has quite an extensive listing of encased and once his book is out it will really add interest to this area of collecting. This is a good area to collect not only for Wisconsin encased but also for the entire U.S. The odd shaped ones seem to bring top dollar, the teddy bear being one of the best, also higher denomination encased are quite desirable.”

What are some other popular areas in the token world?

“Good for tokens from a certain city or state are always good sellers. When the late Gerald Johnson published his hard cover book on known Wisconsin good for tokens it really added interest. Several coin dealers collect these, Glenn Wright that you interviewed, Sue and Randy Miller to mention a few. There are many guys throughout the state that also collect good for tokens, one in your area is Doug Chaussee, a retired police officer from Mt Pleasant, Racine County. My eBay customers are repeat customers when I offer tokens from their specific towns. Another neat area is Masonic chapter pennies and Masonic medals. There are always buyers which speaks for their popularity.”

Tell us a little about hard times tokens?

“Jackson cents or hard times tokens came into use during the panic times of President Andrew Jackson's administration from 1834 to 1841. There about 100 different and make for an interesting area to collect. I always have some in stock and decent ones sell in the \$40.00 to \$60.00 range.”

Is civil war tokens a good area to collect? Kindly give us an introduction to this area.

“Yes, it’s an excellent area to collect. There are two kinds, store cards (advertising with a city and state) and patriotic. They were used as cents because of the shortage of coins. They were put out in a great many varieties, some now common and others quite scarce. Many quaint inscriptions and designs are found such as a kneeling slave in chains with the words, “am I not a man and a brother?: Civil war store cards were issued by private merchants who sold shoes, bakery goods, groceries, hardware supplies, etc.”

How about transportation tokens?

“Another area where there is a good following. There are many kinds made from tin, lead, copper, nickel, celluloid, paper and cardboard. Trolley, bus, railroad, steamboat, ferry all issued these and most large cities.”

Tell us about large medals, these are always in your offerings.

“It's a great area. There are some beautiful ones made of high relief and intricate detail. Thousands of medals are issued every year on every conceivable subject and in honor of all manner of men. In the past medals have been issued on the account of death of kings and queens, to commemorate the opening of a World's Fair, to honor poets, authors, popes, presidents and so on. Many are made from copper, brass, silver, nickel, aluminum and even gold, of King George II.”

You sell military medals, how is this area as to popularity?

“There are many medals out there and there is a good collector base. It's always neat to have the history of the recipient along with the medal. Of course some are common, such as the Good Conduct Medal but like coins condition is a major factor.”

What about those big Canada tokens? Tell us a little about these.

“They are a product of pre-Confederation days when small change was scarce. They were issued with trade names of banks, ship chandlers, brewers and other related organizations. There are over hundred varieties. Some are rare, but a great majority are quite common and inexpensive. “Bouquet Sou” tokens of the Bank of Montreal, or half pennies of Upper Canada are most common.”

Do you sell Conder Tokens? Give the NOW NEWS readers some information on these.

“Yes, I have some in stock. They are privately issued bronze “coins” made in England at the time of King George the II. The name Conder Token came about because of the research in classifying and numbering by the Rev. James Conder. There are many subjects depicted on the tokens namely kings, queens, famous men, natural landmarks, buildings, forts, etc., etc. They also depict advertising, political and social satire. They circulated in the late 1700's. Then the royal

government resumed coinage and the large thick two penny and one penny known as “Cartwheels” were produced.”

Are encased postage stamps a good seller? Why were they made?

“Encased postage stamps first came into use during the Civil War. They were a necessity money used as small change due to the scarcity of metal coins. They are U.S. Postage stamps in denominations from 1 cent to 90 cents encased in metal holders faced with mica and the backs being advertising. They are becoming rare with the passage of time. It's safe to say that in most cases they are becoming out of reach for the average collector, \$300 plus a piece is the going price. Some of the well-known varieties are Ayer's Sara Parilla, Sand's Ale and Drake's Plantation Bitter.”

Why is Fractional Currency sometimes called “shin plasters” and why was this currency introduced?

“The “shin Plasters” name came about on account of being used by Union Soldiers during the Civil War. They stuffed the currency inside their worn shoes to keep their feet warm. And it was introduced on account of the shortage of small currency and coins due again to hoarding during the Civil War. “

You sell World Currency and some of it is Japanese Occupation or Invasion money of WW II. I never understood the varieties or the reason it was made. Tell us a little about this collecting area.

“These notes are plentiful and in most cases are low in value. Many WW II veterans took some of this currency home when the war ended and it's been surfacing for the last 10 or so years.

Here's what I know about it. The Japanese in the conquest of Eastern Asia created occupation currency. They even had invasion notes for India if their anticipated invasion was successful as well as for the U.S. But their ambition of conquest never happen thanks to the Allied Armed Forces. Along with India and the U.S. The Japanese Government produced invasion money for the Philippine Islands,

Dutch East Indies, Australia, Borneo, Sarawak and Burma. When the Japanese government occupied a country they destroyed all the known currencies and issued a series of their own, the occupation money. Again most of it is plentiful but it does make for an interesting collection. Condition and various serial numbers add to the value.”

One last question with paper money. Broken Bank Notes, another area that I don't know much about so help me out along with any NOW members that need a refresher course.

“The U.S. issued no paper money until 1861. Prior to that time the currency in circulation was issued by different banks which were chartered by the states. Such notes were issued by banks in

thirty-five different states. If a state never chartered their banks to issue paper money then notes were issued privately by mining companies etc. to meet the demand for currency.

The majority of State Banknotes are not redeemable, as most of the banks “broke”, failed or no longer exist, thus the name broken bank notes or bills. The State Banknotes are very colorful and are very artistic with the design including themes of mining, portraits of famous Americans and early colonial scenes. There still exist uncut sheets of U.S. State Banknotes in sheets of four.”

You sell a lot of foreign silver crowns (the size of our silver dollar). Which are the best?

“Yes, Russian roubles, German States dalers, Austrian talers and Mexican 8 reales are very popular when in a higher grade. Pre-1900 from these countries sell well.

What about Ancient coins?

“The Caesars, Alexander the Great, coins mentioned in the Bible, such as the widow's mite all will sell and all have a good following.”

You are always willing to share your knowledge with your customers? Why?

“It’s good to practice the Golden rule. But also, one of the intriguing features of collecting world coins is the knowledge it brings, names like Louis the Bald, Otto the Rich are some that we run across. Many collectors want to find out when they lived, how they were named and what their place in history was. If I can add some interesting facts I am more than willing to do this for it makes collecting that much more interesting.”

As to U.S. Coins what series are the most popular?

“Silver dollars, Barber coinage in VF or better, seated dollars and half dollars, twenty cent pieces, seated half dimes and dimes, and half cents and large cents.”

What are your thoughts on Silver?

“I like silver American eagles, old silver dollars, 90% silver coins and .999 silver in that order.”

What's your take on pricing?

“Values are based on supply and demand, retail prices are generally established by someone who puts a list together and publishes it. How they go about it varies but no doubt they involve experts. An example the Coin Dealer Newsletter. They are not intended to represent permanent values but act as a guide. The spread in listed values between “uncirculated” and “extremely fine” is not fixed. In common coins if an uncirculated specimen can be obtained without difficulty, the value shown may be only a small amount above those which grade extremely fine, but in the case of rare coins the spread in values will be much greater. Really if you think about it the price is set at a value that someone is willing to pay.

I know a dealer that has a great inventory of medals and tokens. He sets up at Regional and National shows. Every year it seems he has the same inventory. One can conclude he is not selling much because his prices are too high. Auction houses list and describe their coins and generally in each of their offerings they show a range of low and high estimates. The buyer submits a bid at a price their willing to pay.”

What should a beginner collect?

“It’s a vast world out there when it comes to collecting. Some find a liking to notes; some in only the “types” of coins of a country whether its only US or a particular country in the world; some like tokens and feel that tokens reveal more of the early life of a nation then its official coinage, while others find the challenge of getting together specimens of each denomination and of each date more to their liking. What is important is that the collector should specialize in the area in which he or she is most interested and from which the satisfaction and pleasure is derived.”

What advice can you give a beginner?

“The beginner will do well to take it slow. Ask questions, go to coin shows, look at exhibits, buy a red book, subscribe to Numismatic News, join a coin club and study your subject of interest.”

Have you ever thought about writing a book on some aspect of exonomia?

“No, not really. I have quite an extensive library and I certainly appreciate the people who do write and do research. Having coin shops in the past, doing coin shows presently, along with my ebay business I just don't have the time. My main drive is to keep the wolf away from my door if you know what I mean.”

What's the future for you Jerry? Stay the course with the internet and continue the coin show circuit or will you take a job with a large coin company or auction house?

“We like northern Wisconsin and most likely I'll do more with the internet and less with coin shows. As you know there is a tremendous amount of work involved in doing coin shows. Organizing and pricing your material, loading and unloading, travel expenses, and time away from family, bourse fees and more. As for working for a large national company I feel I could do it and I have thought about it but living in a large city and relocating just isn't in the cards at the present time.”

THANK YOU Jerry for taking time from your busy schedule to answer some of my questions. “Numismatics” according to the dictionary is “the science of money”. However, in a more general sense, it also embraces the study of medals and tokens and I can't think of a more knowledgeable dealer then you when it comes to this area. Also, you know your world and U.S. Coins as well as the best of them.

FLIGHT FROM WISCONSIN

By Tom Casper #982

Early in the twentieth century aviation was being developed in the U.S. as well as foreign countries. The race was on to see who could develop the first motorized airplane. In the U.S. the Wright Brothers of Dayton, Ohio became the most famous. It was 1903 when Orville Wright piloted the world's first successful airplane. But numerous other aviation pioneers and inventors throughout the U.S. were also competing for the honor. Many of these names are familiar to us; Charles Taylor of Dayton, OH, who originally worked for the Wright Brothers; Glenn Curtiss of Hammondsport, NY, Allan Lockheed of Chicago, IL; Glenn L. Martin of Los Angeles, CA, and William Boeing of Seattle, WA.

When I recently picked up a bronze medal, I soon learned that the State of Wisconsin also had one of those early pioneers.

The obverse reads: "United States of America/1919 (bust) with Liberty at the base of his neck, The Works of God Prove his Greatness/Alfred William Lawson".

The reverse reads, "Worlds First Airliner*26 Passenger*1919/Fly 1908*Aircraft 1910***Lawson Money System/ (airplane) VJSP/1972/Lawson Airplane Company/Lawsonomy*Lawsonian Religion/Milwaukee*New York*Washington D.C."

The designer's initials are for Vivian June Smith Padula, a Lawsonian. There was one gold, 100 silver and 400 bronze medals struck. The silver medals have a reeded edge, the bronze edge is plain.



Bronze, 38mm, plain edge



Silver(.999 proof), reeded edge



One of the scarce silver medals is on display in the Mitchell Gallery of Flight museum in General Mitchell International Airport in Milwaukee, along with a model of Lawson's first airliner made in Milwaukee.

I was intrigued to find a medal mentioning my hometown of Milwaukee and honoring this forgotten man who was unfamiliar to me. Research showed he excelled in three unrelated careers; professional baseball, aviation and philosophy. He was born in 1869 in London and came to the U.S. in 1872.

His first career was professional baseball from 1888-1907. He made one start as a pitcher for the Boston Beaneaters and two for the Pittsburgh Alleghenys during the 1890 season. His minor league playing career lasted through 1895. He later managed in the minors from 1905-1907.

From 1908-1928 he pursued his aviation career. In 1913 he became an accomplished pilot. He started publishing an aviation magazine *Fly*, and later renaming it *Aircraft* until 1914. He was an advocate for commercial air travel, coining the term "airliner". He was also a proponent for military aircraft.

Arriving in Green Bay, WI from New York in 1916 he started the Lawson Aircraft Corporation, located at 128-130 S. Pearl St. It was here that he built his first airplane, the Military Tractor 1 (MT1). Its first successful flight occurred on Sept. 11, 1917 when it flew over Green Bay dropping Liberty Bond fliers. In November, 1917 he moved to a larger building at 201-213 S. Pearl St. Plans were underway for his next plane, the MT2. A prototype was constructed but it never was put into production. Both of these planes were military trainers. It was 1919 when they moved to a third location but orders for planes never came because the war had ceased. Later that year they filed bankruptcy.



Although this advertisement indicated that an enormous new Lawson factory (center) would open in Green Bay within a month, it was never built. From *Aerial Age Weekly*, March 25, 1918.

Milwaukee was his next stop, arriving here in April, 1919 with plans to develop a commercial airliner. The Lawson Airplane Company was formed and was located in a loft above the Cream City Sash and Door Co., 601 Park St., later becoming 1203 W. Bruce St. After the parts were made for the airliner, named C-2, they were taken to State Fair Park where the plane was assembled. It was a biplane with twin Army surplus Liberty engines and sixteen seats. The plane would have a pilot and co-pilot. It was the largest non-military plane at the time. The initial flight was on August 22, 1919 and a large crowd turned out for the champagne christening of the plane. After making some minor repairs, it took off on August 27 for a 2,000 mile, 5 city trip. The publicity allowed him to get financing for a bigger airplane and obtain government contracts for airmail service.



An advertisement featuring Lawson's splendid sixteen-passenger airliner. Only when movable seats were placed in the aisle could it carry the twenty-six passengers claimed by Lawson. From *Aerial Age Weekly*, January 26, 1920.

Later that year, he moved to the vacant Fisk Rubber Co. building at 909 Menomonee Ave. in South Milwaukee, WI to build a bigger airliner. The L-4, known as the "Midnight Airliner", would be his fourth and final airplane. It was a 26 seat biplane with a 125' wing span and powered by three Liberty engines. The plane also had a pilot and co-pilot. He by this time was running out of money. Then a depression hit in the fall of 1920, tightening his money supply. On January 23, 1921 he was offering 10% interest on borrowed money. Because he still had only one plane, he asked to be released from his post office contracts. Investors demanded answers for his delays. He had to lay off his factory workers. His supporters were pressuring him to test the plane. So on May 8, 1921 he made a terrible decision to fly the plane in poor conditions. It took off on a short runway without a head wind. It was unable to clear the trees at the end of the runway and causing him to hit a telephone pole.

His backers refused to give him any more money for repairs to the plane which caused him to file bankruptcy in 1922. The crash ended his best chance for commercial success.

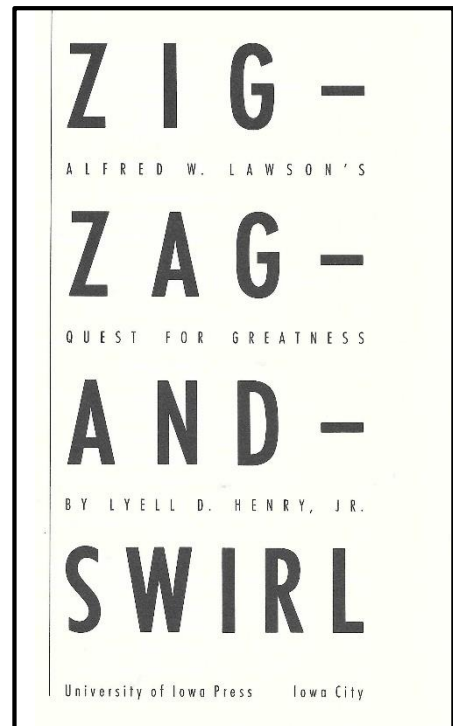
Lawson, then known as “The Columbus of the Air”, left the Milwaukee area and returned to New York. For a third time he tried to start up the company but he faced the same delays, which ended his ties with aviation in the late 1920’s.

It was 1929 when he turned to philosophy. He promoted health practices, including vegetarianism and claimed to have found the secret of living to 200. In 1943 he founded the University of Lawsonomy in Des Moines, IA, now in Sturtevant, WI and the Lawsonian religion. For many years the sign, University of Lawsonomy, appeared along Interstate 94 near Racine, WI. Alfred Lawson was described as eccentric, brilliant, self-made entrepreneur with a quest for power and fame. He was ten years ahead of his time when he designed his airplanes with only a sixth grade education. One of the main reasons for his airplane failures was that he was always undercapitalized. Lawson died in San Antonio, TX on November 29, 1954 at age 85. Because of Lawson’s work here, Wisconsin can be included in the states that assisted in the early development of airplanes and airliners.

In 1991 a biography of Lawson entitled “ZIG ZAG And SWIRL, Alfred W. Lawson’s Quest for Greatness” was written by Lyell D. Henry, Jr., published by the University of Iowa Press.



Alfred W. Lawson



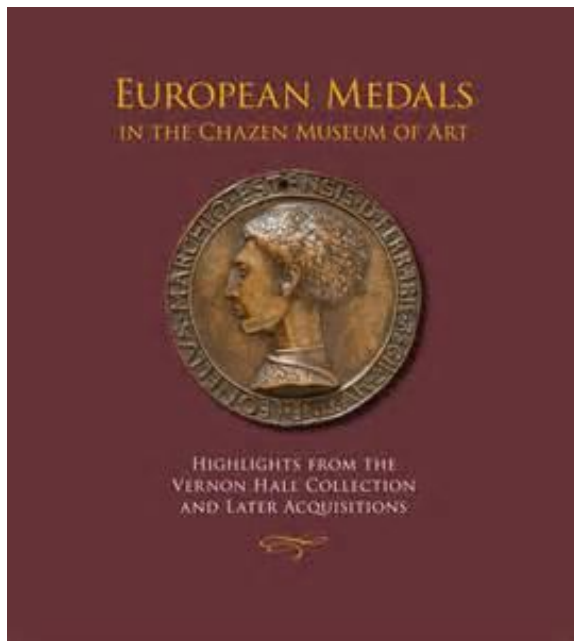
BOOKS !

Book Review: Updated European Medals Catalog Available

By Dreux J. Watermolen #1755

In an earlier issue of *N.O.W. News* (2012, 50[1]:15-17), I briefly described an important collection of European portrait medals held by the University of Wisconsin's Chazen Museum of Art. Vernon Hall, a UW alumnus and former professor of comparative literature (1964 to 1980), donated the medals to the Chazen (then known as the Elvehjem Museum of Art) in the 1970s. Professor Hall documented the collection in the museum's 104-page *Catalogue of the Vernon Hall Collection of European Medals* published in 1978. Now, collectors, scholars, and others can benefit from a recently updated and expanded collection catalog.

As time passed, the Chazen's curatorial staff revisited the medals and invited a well-known European sculpture consultant, Mark Wilchusky, to evaluate and appraise the collection "in light of new scholarship." His 1998 report to the museum provided detailed information on the quality and rarity of the medals and suggested likely dates of production. Wilchusky specifically identified 61 Renaissance, Baroque and nineteenth-century medals as "having particular historical significance." The museum sought to carefully document this group in an updated catalog to illustrate the history of commemorative medals. Shortly after, Stephen K. Scher, a curator and collector affiliated with the National Gallery of Art, was asked to write an introductory essay for the project. He suggested other international medal scholars who could provide in-depth analyses describing the medals, offer historical context of the figures commemorated, and identify other known examples of the art works. Their resulting detailed accounts were compiled into a 205-page updated *European Medals in the Chazen Museum of Art: Highlights from the Vernon Hall Collection and Later Acquisitions* catalog published in 2014 by the museum to highlight the collection.



As noted in the curator's introductory comments, this new work will be of interest and use "to students, specialists, and the general public alike." It includes a forward from the director, acknowledgment from the curator, Scher's essay on "The Development of the Commemorative Medal: The Fifteenth to Nineteenth Centuries," detailed catalog accounts, and color plates of the individual medals. A comprehensive bibliography, index of legends, general index, and list of contributors round out the pages. An illustrated online "Handlist" provides additional documentation for medals not included in the catalog (see www.chazen.wis.edu).

Both the original and the updated catalog are available for purchase online and from the museum's gift shop (\$9.00 and \$39.95, respectively). In addition, the museum continues to display a selection of these impressive medals in two of its second floor galleries, making a visit to the university campus a worthwhile trip.

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FOXES

by Emmy Reichenberger #Y2370

One of my favorite animals is a fox. Their red fur is so beautiful. Foxes can sometimes be easy to spot in some woods, but they can also blend in. I also like foxes because they are wild animals and they would not make good pets and I think that is cool. Foxes are also fun to draw because no two foxes are exactly the same so it doesn't matter if you mess up.

Many people think that foxes can be scary or vicious, but they are not. They are just as afraid of you as you are of them. They just want to keep themselves and their families' safe, just like humans. When I think of a fox, I think of a brave, intelligent, beautiful animal.

Here are a few facts about foxes: a female fox is called a vixen. You might want to know what a baby or a young fox is called, there are multiple answers for that; they can be called a kit, a cub, a young fox, or a young vixen. When people purchase a new property, they put up a SOLD sign, but when foxes claim their territory they do their business all over that specific spot. Foxes eat meat and plant foods, this is called 'omnivore'. They will eat small animals and insects, plants, berries and fruits. There are 12 species of foxes, some of the better known foxes are the Red Fox, Grey Fox, Swift Fox, and the Arctic Fox.



Red Fox



Arctic Fox I have a coin from the Royal Canadian Mint that has an Arctic Fox on it, so I looked up some facts about Arctic Foxes. The Arctic Fox is one of few mammals that changes its fur color with the seasons. In winter it is pure white, so white that it blends in with the snow. In the summer it is generally brown. The fur is

extremely dense and they have fur on the bottom of their paws to help them survive the extreme cold of the Arctic Tundra regions where they live. They also have thick layers of fat to help keep them warm. Their size is from 5 to 20 pounds and the males are usually larger.

The coin I have is from 2014. It is an 8 dollar face value coin made of 1.5 ounces of .9999 silver. Queen Elizabeth II is on one side and the Arctic Fox is on the other. In 2004 the Royal Canadian Mint issued a set of 4 silver coins with Arctic Foxes on them, and in 2016 they made another ½ ounce silver coin that has a 10 dollar face value with an Arctic Fox shown drinking water. The Arctic Fox is a beautiful animal and it makes a great subject on a beautiful coin.



2004 Arctic Fox Fractional .9999 Silver 4-Coin Set



2014 8 dollar Arctic Fox coin (actual size 38mm)



2016 10 dollar Arctic Fox coin
(actual size 34mm)

SOURCES:

Foxesworlds.com

Royal Canadian Mint; mint.ca

Pax; by Sara Pennypacker; 2016 Balzer & Bray. Matt Walker, expert fox consultant to the author.

